

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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DATE DISTR. 8 JUNE 1949

SUBJECT Soviet O/B Notes: Ohrdruf and
Other Locations in Thuringia

NO. OF PAGES 2

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PLACE
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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Arnstadt (J25), 12 April

No Soviet troops except those attached to the Kreis Komendatura.

2. Themar, Schleusingen, Eisfeld, Schalkau, Sonneberg (J01.11.20.30.40)

This area is completely free of troops except for those belonging to the Kreis Komendatura in Sonneberg. No troop movements were seen. In some border villages, 20-30 men at a time are rotated at border points.

3. Erfurt (J36), 16 April

Fifty men at the Nenne Barracks constituted Erfurt's troop strength on observation date, all others having departed a month ago, supposedly to the Kindl training area. Some of Erfurt's destroyed barracks are to be rebuilt and it is rumored that they will be occupied by paramilitary police units. The former training ground at Drosselberg near Erfurt has been reforested and is consequently inoperative.

4. Ohrdruf (J15), 8, 19, and 20 April

8 April: Parts of 39 Guards Motorized Division from Rudolstadt (J54) and Saalfeld (J53) departed in the direction of Erfurt after three weeks of firing practice.

8 April: Unloaded in the training area: 12 freight cars each carrying

30-40 men; unreported number of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; two 122 mm howitzers 38; four 76.2 mm guns; five 57 mm
AT guns; three smaller guns, same general type as the 57 mm.

19 April: Unloaded: [REDACTED]
six SU-152; three "armored vehicles...."; three light armored reconnaissance

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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20 April: Loaded: Trucks belonging to 39 Guards Motorized Division, 70% Studebakers, the rest Russian Fords, in a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Of these trucks, [REDACTED] to 26 were gun carriage vehicles with 76.2 mm AT guns and three 45 mm AT guns. Also included in this outbound transport were two SU's and nine supply cars (Güterwagen).

Combined estimate of source and a railroad official is that 7,000 - 9,000 troops were at Ohrdruf during the indicated period. There were no mass exercises; small unit firings and some artillery target practice were observed.

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There was considerable traffic in trucks hauling lumber, reported to be for the construction of tank and vehicle sheds. [REDACTED]

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Comment: A rather hazy source description of these armored vehicles suggests that they may have been JS-3 tanks.

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